

forth the separate views of such member with respect to any matter considered by the Commission.

(III) BRIEFING.—On the date of the submission of the first annual report, the Commission shall brief Congress.

(ii) FINAL REPORT.—

(I) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the initial meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall submit to Congress a report that contains a detailed statement of the findings, recommendations, and lessons learned endorsed by the Commission.

(II) ADDENDA.—Any member of the Commission may submit an addendum to the report required under subclause (I) setting forth the separate views of such member with respect to any matter considered by the Commission.

(III) EXTENSION.—The Commission may submit the report required under subclause (I) at a date that is not more than 1 year later than the date specified in such clause if agreed to by the chairperson and ranking member of each of the appropriate congressional committees.

(B) FORM.—The report required by paragraph (1)(B) shall be submitted and publicly released on a Government website in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

(C) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS ON DECLASSIFICATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 4 years after the date that the report required by subparagraph (A)(ii) is submitted, each relevant agency of jurisdiction shall submit to the committee of jurisdiction a report on the efforts of such agency to declassify such annex.

(ii) CONTENTS.—Each report required by clause (i) shall include—

(I) a list of the items in the classified annex that the agency is working to declassify at the time of the report and an estimate of the timeline for declassification of such items;

(II) a broad description of items in the annex that the agency is declining to declassify at the time of the report; and

(III) any justification for withholding declassification of certain items in the annex and an estimate of the timeline for declassification of such items.

(f) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—

(1) HEARINGS.—The Commission may hold such hearings, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Commission considers necessary to carry out its purpose and functions under this section.

(2) ASSISTANCE FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

(A) INFORMATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may secure directly from a Federal department or agency such information as the Commission considers necessary to carry out this section.

(ii) FURNISHING INFORMATION.—Upon receipt of a written request by the Co-Chairpersons of the Commission, the head of the department or agency shall expeditiously furnish the information to the Commission.

(B) SPACE FOR COMMISSION.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of General Services, in consultation with the Commission, shall identify and make available suitable excess space within the Federal space inventory to house the operations of the Commission. If the Administrator of General Services is not able to make such suitable excess space available within such 30-day period, the Commission may lease space to the extent that funds are available for such purpose.

(3) POSTAL SERVICES.—The Commission may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as

other departments and agencies of the Federal Government.

(4) GIFTS.—The Commission may accept, use, and dispose of gifts or donations of services, goods, and property from non-Federal entities for the purposes of aiding and facilitating the work of the Commission. The authority in this subsection does not extend to gifts of money. Gifts accepted under this authority shall be documented, and conflicts of interest or the appearance of conflicts of interest shall be avoided. Subject to the authority in this section, commissioners shall otherwise comply with rules set forth by the Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate and the Committee on Ethics of the House of Representatives governing employees of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

(5) LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The Commission shall operate as a legislative advisory committee and shall not be subject to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463; 5 U.S.C. App) or section 552b, United States Code (commonly known as the Government in the Sunshine Act).

(g) COMMISSION PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

(1) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—A member of the Commission who is not an officer or employee of the Federal Government shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) during which the member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Commission.

(2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission.

(3) STAFF.—

(A) STATUS AS FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Notwithstanding the requirements of section 2105 of title 5, United States Code, including the required supervision under subsection (a)(3) of such section, the members of the commission shall be deemed to be Federal employees.

(B) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Commission shall appoint and fix the rate of basic pay for an Executive Director in accordance with section 3161(d) of title 5, United States Code.

(C) PAY.—The Executive Director, with the approval of the Commission, may appoint and fix the rate of basic pay for additional personnel as staff of the Commission in accordance with section 3161(d) of title 5, United States Code.

(4) DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—A Federal Government employee may be detailed to the Commission without reimbursement, and such detail shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status or privilege.

(5) PROCUREMENT OF TEMPORARY AND INTERMITTENT SERVICES.—The Co-Chairpersons of the Commission may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, at rates for individuals that do not exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of that title.

(h) TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.—The Commission shall terminate 90 days after the date on which the Commission submits the report required under subsection (e)(2)(A)(ii).

(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) INCREASE.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 4301 for Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide, for the Of-

fice of the Secretary of Defense, is hereby increased by \$3,000,000.

(2) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 4301 for Operation and Maintenance, Afghanistan Security Forces Fund, for Afghanistan Air Force, Line 090, is hereby reduced by \$3,000,000.

SA 4804. Mr. YOUNG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1253. REPORT ON GEOSTRATEGIC INTERESTS AND NATIONAL SECURITY IMPLICATIONS RELATED TO TRADE IN INDO-PACIFIC REGION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 150 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the United States Trade Representative, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall submit to Congress and make available to the public a report on geostrategic interests and national security implications related to trade in the Indo-Pacific region.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include an assessment of the following:

(1) How reductions in tariffs, revisions in government procurement rules, and other market access commitments by countries in the Indo-Pacific region could potentially affect United States producers and supply chains deemed critical for national security purposes.

(2) How agreements by those countries, including with respect to strengthening investment and intellectual property rights, could potentially affect the development by the United States of critical new technologies.

(3) How agreements by those countries relating to digital trade could potentially affect United States cybersecurity, including potential agreements entered into with the United States to promote cybersecurity and open data flows and to combat discriminatory practices and government censorship.

(4) How tariff and nontariff barriers imposed by those countries and trade agreements by those countries could broadly affect geostrategic United States interests, partnerships, and alliances.

(5) Current and predicted foreign direct investment in the Indo-Pacific region by the People's Republic of China.

(6) How agreements by those countries could counter the semiconductor policies of the Government of the People's Republic of China, particularly those policies that could lead to the transfer of intellectual property, research and development, and manufacturing to the People's Republic of China.

(c) PUBLIC HEARING.—The Trade Representative and the officials specified in subsection (a) shall jointly conduct a public hearing and invite witnesses to testify with respect to the elements described in subsection (b).

SA 4805. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year

2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

Subtitle —Veterans Matters

SEC. ____ . EXTENSIONS OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATING TO BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

(a) EXTENSION OF STUDENT VETERAN CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT OF 2020.—Section 2 of the Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-140; 38 U.S.C. 3031 note), as amended by section 5202(a) of the Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2020 (division E of Public Law 116-159), is further amended by striking “December 21, 2021” and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

(b) EXTENSION OF PAYMENT OF WORK-STUDY ALLOWANCES DURING EMERGENCY SITUATION.—Section 3 of the Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (38 U.S.C. 3485 note) is amended by striking “During the covered period” and inserting “During the period beginning on March 1, 2020, and ending on June 1, 2022”.

(c) EXTENSION OF PERIOD FOR CONTINUATION OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION CONVERTED TO DISTANCE LEARNING BY REASON OF EMERGENCIES AND HEALTH-RELATED SITUATIONS.—Section 1(b) of Public Law 116-128 (38 U.S.C. 3001 note prec.), as amended by section 5202(b) of the Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2020 (division E of Public Law 116-159), is further amended by striking “December 21, 2021” and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

(d) EXTENSION OF MODIFICATION OF TIME LIMITATIONS ON USE OF ENTITLEMENT TO MONTGOMERY GI BILL AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND TRAINING.—Section 1105 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-315) is amended by striking “December 21, 2021” each place it appears and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

(e) EXTENSION OF CONTINUATION OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY.—Section 1102(e) of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-315) is amended by striking “December 21, 2021” and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

(f) EXTENSION OF PROVISIONS RELATING TO EFFECTS OF CLOSURE OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION AND MODIFICATION OF COURSES BY REASON OF COVID-19 EMERGENCY.—Section 1103(h) of such Act is amended by striking “December 21, 2021” and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

(g) EXTENSION OF PROVISION RELATING TO PAYMENT OF EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE IN CASES OF WITHDRAWAL.—Section 1104(a) of such Act is amended by striking “December 21, 2021” and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

(h) EXTENSION OF PROVISION RELATING TO APPRENTICESHIP OR ON-JOB TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 1106(b) of such Act is amended by striking “December 21, 2021” and inserting “June 1, 2022”.

SEC. ____ . MODIFICATIONS TO REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) WAIVER OF VERIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT FOR CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.—Section 3313(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the requirements of this subsection for an educational institution that the Secretary has determined uses a flat tuition and fee structure that would make the use of a second verification under this subsection unnecessary.”.

(b) LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORITY TO DISAPPROVE OF COURSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 3679 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2)(B),

(i) by inserting “, except for the recruitment of foreign students residing in foreign countries who are not eligible to receive Federal student assistance” after “assistance”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) In determining whether a violation of subparagraph (B) has occurred, the State approving agency, or the Secretary when acting in the place of the State approving agency, shall construe the requirements of this paragraph in accordance with the regulations and guidance prescribed by the Secretary of Education under section 487(a)(20) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)(20)).”;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (8); and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following new paragraph (7):

“(7) This subsection shall not apply to an educational institution—

“(A) located in a foreign country; or

“(B) that provides to a covered individual consumer information regarding costs of the program of education (including financial aid available to such covered individual) using a form or template developed by the Secretary of Education.”.

(2) APPLICATION DATE.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may not carry out subsection (f) of section 3679 of title 38, United States Code, until August 1, 2022, except that, beginning on June 15, 2022, an educational institution may submit an application for a waiver under paragraph (5) of such subsection.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subsection (c) of section 3696 of such title is amended—

(A) by inserting “(1)” before “An educational”;

(B) by inserting “, except for the recruitment of foreign students residing in foreign countries who are not eligible to receive Federal student assistance” after “assistance”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) In determining whether a violation of paragraph (1) has occurred, the Under Secretary for Benefits shall construe the requirements of this paragraph in accordance with the regulations and guidance prescribed by the Secretary of Education under section 487(a)(20) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)(20)).”.

(c) EXEMPTION OF FOREIGN SCHOOLS FROM CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) INFORMATION RELATING TO TESTS.—Section 3689(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) Subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to an edu-

cational institution located in a foreign country.”.

(2) EXAMINATION OF RECORDS.—Section 3690(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking “Notwithstanding” and inserting “(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), notwithstanding”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to the records and accounts—

“(A) of an educational institution located in a foreign country; and

“(B) that pertain to an individual who is not receiving educational assistance under this chapter.”.

SEC. ____ . CONTINUATION OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION CONVERTED TO DISTANCE LEARNING BY REASON OF EMERGENCIES AND HEALTH-RELATED SITUATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a program of education approved by a State approving agency, or the Secretary of Veterans Affairs when acting in the role of a State approving agency, that is converted from being offered on-site at an educational institution to being offered by distance learning by reason of an emergency or health-related situation, as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may continue to provide educational assistance under the laws administered by the Secretary without regard to such conversion, including with respect to paying any—

(1) monthly housing stipends under chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code; or

(2) payments or subsistence allowances under chapters 30, 31, 32, and 35 of such title and chapters 1606 and 1607 of title 10, United States Code.

(b) APPLICABILITY PERIOD.—Subsection (a) shall apply during the period beginning on December 21, 2021, and ending on June 1, 2022.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.—The term “educational institution” has the meaning given that term in section 3452 of title 38, United States Code, and includes an institution of higher learning (as defined in such section).

(2) PROGRAM OF EDUCATION.—The term “program of education” has the meaning given that term in section 3002 of title 38, United States Code.

(3) STATE APPROVING AGENCY.—The term “State approving agency” has the meaning given that term in section 3671 of title 38, United States Code.

SEC. ____ . BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Amounts provided to carry out the amendments made by this subtitle are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4(g) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(g)).

(b) DESIGNATION IN SENATE.—In the Senate, amounts provided to carry out the amendments made by this subtitle are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 412(a) of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018.

SA 4806. Ms. SMITH (for herself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 submitted by Mr. REED and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel